

# THE Pacific Commercial Advertiser

A MORNING PAPER.

WALTER G. SMITH : : : : : EDITOR

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## AFTER THE POLES, WHAT?

The news of the discovery of the North Pole, despite the doubts of the venerable Melville, seems to be authentic. There now remain no terra incognitas excepting the South Pole and some Himalayan peaks, with here and there small tracts which have not seemed worth exploring. Before long the South Pole may be expected to yield its secrets, and dirigibles will scale the giant ranges. What is there left on the earth's crust to stir the geographical curiosity of man? Is there anything, once the South Pole has been found, save the bottom of the sea?

Here, indeed, is a wonderful world which the eye of man has never viewed save in shoreward places and which it may never see; yet so intrepid and so full of unexpected achievement is science that the conquest of the ocean depths may yet be made. The submarine is here and the question of pressures may not always be unsurmountable; electricity can be made to light up the darkest abysses, and stored power to traverse them. A century hence it may be as common to cross submerged continents as to journey on the surface or in the air; a time when the maps will reveal mountains and valleys and great plains now known only to deep-sea soundings and to the imagination. Who knows but Jules Verne may be outdone in submarine voyaging just as he has been in his eighty-day trip around the world? People may yet visit the ocean floor at Salamis and Trafalgar, visit famous wrecks and unravel mysteries of lost ships, gather gold from the ocean's hidden store and see the ruined cities of Atlantis. Perhaps some strenuous President to come may take his vacations following the whales in the nether deep and searching for the sea serpents in their caves about the base of continents. There are strange coral forests to be penetrated; the weirdest of sights to be seen; the wildest of experiences awaiting the men who go down into the deep in perfected submarines; indeed, a new world to be studied and explored as different from the one we live in as the elements of nature are different.

We are reaching out to Mars in vain, even for a message, and there is no hope of conquest or answers there. But the sea is becoming a practicable field of exploitation; and where could there be one of deeper fascination to the explorer, the man of science, or the mere seer of sights?

## HASHEESH FOR THE REDMEN.

We are indebted to the Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune for a curious story about a new problem of the Indian Bureau. It appears that the Indians of the Southwest have lately found in the little peyote bean a principle which gives them hashish visions; and that there is a habit spreading with rapidity among them which may easily prove as destructive and as enticing as opium is to its devotees, on which account the government must interfere. The peyote, as the story goes, brings on a condition of great serenity and content when used by the Indians. It is produced from a cactus that grows in the Southwest, particularly in Texas and Mexico. When it is dried by the sun, the blossom becomes cottony in appearance, and for this reason it has received the Spanish name for caterpillar.

The Indian Bureau has been making efforts for the last year to discourage the use of the drug, and although a large portion of the supply has been bought up and the wholesalers have agreed to sell no more to the Indians many traces of it are constantly found on the reservations. Peyote is used in two forms. The dried product is chewed and swallowed, or it is distilled in water. The effect of the drug differs according to the temperament and physical condition of its user. Taken in large quantities, the effect is almost immediate. It produces a nausea, followed by a stupor, during which all manner of visions are seen, most of them fantastic and delightful. It is accompanied by a vast elevation of the spirit, and turns the most surly and brutal Indian into a laughing and docile spirit filled with good will to men.

Most of the Indians use it until they become entirely unconscious, but a member of the Indian Bureau who experimented on himself and did not take a large dose at no time completely lost consciousness and was at all times cognizant of his surroundings. He found that the ordinary colors were greatly heightened in intensity and brilliancy and were extremely pleasant to the senses; that when he closed his eyes a procession of Chinese pagodas, with variegated trimmings, floated around him, pleasing geometrical designs soothed him and peacocks of brilliant plumage drifted over his head.

While this is the most usual experience, a case where the contrary effect was produced has been brought to the attention of the Indian Bureau. An Indian of the Sac and Fox reservation in Iowa, while under the influence of the drug, had a vision in which he went to the place of torment, where people threw stones at him which were exceedingly hot and where the floor burned his feet and strange figures put coals in his mouth. He had been a habitual user of the drug, but immediately joined the "Never Again Club." In almost all the tribes the use of peyote has been accompanied by the establishment of a sort of religious cult, but the services are accompanied by various heathen practices. It is said by the Indian devotees that the white man can not obtain enjoyment from the drug that comes to them, for the reason that God sent into the world a comforter for the white man and the Indians have no such consolation. They assert that the peyote has been sent to act as a substitute and that through peyote the Indian is able to commune with God.

At a recent assembly among the Poncas, in Oklahoma, where the Indians were gathered together in a tent, it was believed that the body of the Savior would emerge from a peyote lying on the crescent-shaped altar, but that the figure would be visible only to those who had consumed a sufficient quantity of the bean. After about twenty-four hours of waiting most of the Indians were stupefied and did not wholly recover for several days. Dr. S. Weir Mitchell has experimented on the bean and found that it possesses unusual narcotic properties. He also joined other students of the drug in the statement that it is undoubtedly injurious.

The action on the nerves is intense, and in many instances persons in poor physical condition have died as a result of their overindulgence. Only one case has been reported to the Indian Bureau where an apparently healthy person died from its use. The effect of indulgence lasts longer than in the use of alcohol, the taking of a small amount showing effects thirty-six hours afterward. The mind becomes clear after the vision has departed, but lassitude continues for a long period. The continual use deprives the users of both mental and physical vigor. It is not accompanied by violence, as in the use of alcohol, and for that reason it has been suggested that its use be not interdicted, because of its removal of the appetite for alcoholic liquors in those who have become addicted to them. The Indian Bureau, however, has decided to abolish its use, if possible, and deal with the liquor question as best it can.

A physician who had sufficient opportunity to observe its influence reports that the drug dulls the intellect and provokes a stronger appetite for its use; that it injures the digestive organs, depresses heart action, and often develops monomania. After a war of nearly a year on the drug the Indian Bureau is convinced that it can be barred from Indian reservations within a short time.

## DR. COOK'S WITNESSES.

It is not clear from the dispatches whether Dr. Cook's white companion went with him to the Pole; if not, some envious explorer may question the knowledge of the Eskimo witnesses as to the locality the Doctor found.

The situation recalls an incident in the New York World office years ago, when an earnest scientific man came in with a scheme to reach the North Pole by flying light. He wanted to be landed, at the World's expense, on the farthest possible point north; and then, with one Eskimo, provisions for two, and a dog train, he would dash north and pluck out the heart of the polar mystery.

This looked well to the World, and an editorial council was called to talk the subject over with the scientific man. All went smoothly until the turf editor, who was young and red-headed, broke in with the remark: "Say! When you reach the Pole, the first thing you do is to go before a notary public and get his name on an affidavit that you are there. Don't neglect it, or somebody may think that you didn't go quite so far north."

When the laughter subsided, the scheme had collapsed.

Harriman has rigidity of the spinal column. Everybody knew that, but the disease was supposed to be only fatal to the other fellow.

Perhaps Makino will draw on that \$40,000 private fortune to make up the \$8000 deficit.

May Her Majesty have many happy returns of the day.

## LAUNDRYMEN IN THE TOILS

Forget to Pay License Fees and Fall Into Hands of Police.

Chinese laundrymen are now having a taste of the retribution which comes to the man who does not pay his license fees. Four scrubbers of soiled linen were yesterday arrested and booked at the police station for nonpayment of licenses.

Chong Loy, Wo Kee, Sun Lee and Quen Kee are the latest victims of the law's wrath. They were mightily astonished and more chagrined when the police descended upon them, and there was some pretty excited jabbering at the desk when the men were booked. From their protestations, it was evident that they did not quite understand the provisions of the license law, and had the clerk been provided with some of the blank slips, he could have done a thriving business selling licenses.

Matsubara also was taken into custody for not paying his license fee. He is a Japanese fisherman who operates a sampan, and can not see why he should pay a license while the Hawaiian with a canoe is immune.

## DANCES AT HOTELS FOR MANY VISITORS

The official dance in honor of the visiting Congressmen was given at the Seaside Hotel last evening, and was a most enjoyable affair. The open lanai for dancing, the strings of colored incandescents festooned from the trees, the spacious lawn where the dancers promenaded between numbers, and delightful music, made it a most pleasing function. A large number of people were present including many Congressmen and army people who visited the dances at both hotels.

**Gay At the Young.**  
The concert given by the 29th Infantry band at the Young Hotel roof garden last evening was a pleasure to the large and fashionable audience which was present, for the music was of a high order and beautifully rendered. The band has been one of the best stationed in Manila and vicinity for some time.

Following the concert, the officers and ladies of the transport Thomas, members of the Congressional party, and local service people and townsfolk, danced in the makai ballroom, to the music of Cunha's quintet.

## MRS. HANAPI IS DEAD.

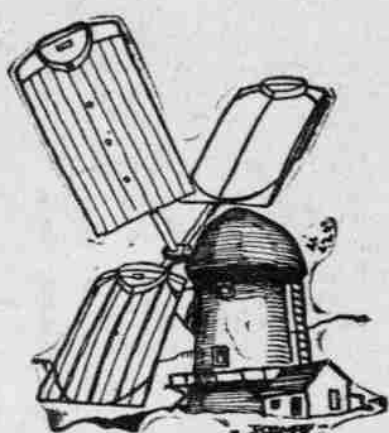
Mrs. Katie Hanapi, wife of Edward Hanapi and sister of the Honorable Frank Harvey, died yesterday afternoon at her home in Kalihi. Mrs. Hanapi was forty-three years old, having been born on November 5, 1866. She leaves seven children, Mrs. Harry Strange, and Frank, Mike, Kahukoi, Hihikaina, Gurley and Ethel Hanapi. Funeral services will be held this afternoon. The hour has not been decided upon.

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